Appln. No. 09/890,924 Amdt. dated October 13, 2004 Reply to Office action of June 30, 2004

## Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-9 (cancelled):

Claim 10 (currently amended): The valuable paper of claim  $\pm$  12, wherein the characteristic pattern indicates at least one of country code, name of gaming or gambling accommodation, value level, starting information and stopping information, testing mode and version data.

Claim 11 (cancelled):

Claim 12 (new): A valuable paper examined by a validator in gaming or gambling accommodations, said valuable paper comprising on at least a surface of the paper, a characteristic pattern detectable by a sensor means of the validator to discriminate the valuable paper inserted into the validator;

wherein the sensor means of the validator also detects at least a distinctive portion of a bill to discriminate authenticity of the bill inserted into the validator;

the characteristic pattern is invisibly printed on the valuable paper with an ink that contains at least one selected

from (a) an ingredient for absorbing or reflecting infrared or ultraviolet ray; and (b) fluorescent material for producing an optical change.

Claim 13 (new): The valuable paper of claim 12, wherein the valuable paper has its substantially same width as that of the bill; the characteristic pattern of the valuable paper is formed on the substantially same position in width as that of the distinctive portion in the bill.

Claim 14 (new): The valuable paper of claim 12, wherein said valuable paper is selected from tokens, scrip and substitutes for currency, and

the sensor means comprises an optical sensor for detecting the characteristic pattern on the valuable paper and the distinctive portion of the bill.

Claim 15 (new): The valuable paper of claim 12, wherein the characteristic pattern is printed with invisible transparent or semi-transparent ink.

Claim 16 (new): The valuable paper of claim 12, wherein the characteristic pattern is invisibly covered and concealed with a mask coating printed on the characteristic pattern, the mask coating is formed with an ingredient permeable by infrared or ultraviolet ray.

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Claim 17 (new): The valuable paper of claim 12, wherein the ink includes vehicle which is one or mixture selected from groups of mineral oil such as gasoline, kerosene, light oil, machine oil, vaseline, and paraffin wax; vegetable oil such as drying oil, semi- or non-drying oil, synthetic drying oil; and mixture of mineral oil or vegetable oil with synthetic resin or organic solvent.

Claim 18 (new): The valuable paper of claim 16, wherein the ink includes vehicle which contains synthetic resin such as ester rubber, denatured phenol resin, denatured alkyd resin, or maleic rosin oxide.